

Message Text

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ACTION IO-06

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1978
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, APER

SUBJECT: UN PERSONNEL: APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OF WORLD FOOD COUNCIL

1. AMBASSADOR YOUNG, ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR WELLS AND
MISOFF, CALLED ON SYG MORNING JUNE 13 TO DELIVER LETTER
FROM SECRETARY VANCE REGARDING US NOMINATION OF MAURICE
WILLIAMS FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF WORLD FOOD COUNCIL
(WFC). USYG FOR ADMINISTRATION DAVIDSON AND ASYG
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT RAFEEUDDIN AHMED WERE PRESENT.

2. WALDHEIM SAID HE AND WFC PRESIDENT TANCO FAVOR
APPOINTMENT OF WILLIAMS. WALDHEIM BRIEFLY REVIEWED
HISTORY OF G-77 ENDORSEMENT FOR APPOINTMENT OF LDC
NATIONAL AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BOTH IN ROME AND NEW YORK:
SYG ADDED THAT NEW YORK REP OF G-77 (AMB: MILLS OF
JAMAICA) WAS "REASONABLE" IN PRESENTING G-77 POSITION
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AND "DID NOT SAY HE HAD JOINED G-77."

3. WALDHEIM NOTED THAT FAO DE SAOUMA CONCURS IN APPOINT-
MENT OF WILLIAMS AND THAT CHARTER OF WORLD FOOD
COUNCIL REQUIRES COUNCIL'S APPROVAL ALSO FOR APPOINTMENT
BY SYG OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. SYG SAID HE HAD ASKED
TANCO TO GET WFC APPROVAL FOR APPOINTMENT OF WILLIAMS

BY NAME. IF THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE, SYG HAS REQUESTED THAT APPOINTMENT BE LEFT IN HIS HANDS AND HAS ASKED TANCO TO OBTAIN AGREEMENT OF WFC NOT TO OBJECT TO WHATEVER APPOINTMENT WALDHEIM MAKES.

4. AMBASSADOR YOUNG INVITED WALDHEIM TO ADVISE US IF LOBBYING ON OUR PART WOULD BE HELPFUL. HE ELABORATED UPON IMPORTANCE OF APPOINTMENT OF WILLIAMS IN CONTEXT OF FOOD AS A SECTOR OF THE GLOBAL ECONOMY WHERE A BREAKTHROUGH IN NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE IS MOST LIKELY. HE CITED AS INDICATION OF US INTEREST IN PROBLEM THE SOON-TO-BE ANNOUNCED ESTABLISHMENT OF A PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON WORLD HUNGER TO BE HEADED BY SOL LINOWITZ.

5. SYG WELCOMED AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S OFFER OF US LOBBYING IN SUPPORT OF WILLIAMS AND SAID THAT TODAY (JUNE 13) AND TOMORROW ARE CRITICAL DAYS IN WFC CONSIDERATION OF MATTER. HE URGED PROMPT US EFFORTS IN MEXICO CITY IN SUPPORT OF WILLIAMS. YOUNG

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